

DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW SNAKE AND A NEW FROG FROM SIAM.

By MALCOLM A. SMITH, M.R.C.S., F.Z.S.

Simotes longicauda joysoni, subsp. nov.

Bodily configuration as in *S. cyclurus*. Nasal divided; portion of rostral visible above as long as its distance from the frontal; internasal suture slightly shorter than interpraefrontal suture; frontal longer than its distance to the end of the snout, as long as the parietals; loreal slightly longer than deep; 1 prae- and 2 postoculars; temporals 1+2 (or 1+1+2, anterior very small); 8 supralabials, 4th and 5th bordering the eye; 5 infralabials in contact with the chin-shields, the anterior pair of which are twice as large as the posterior.

Scales smooth, in 17 rows in the anterior part of the body, diminishing to 15 by fusion of the 4th and 5th rows above the ventrals shortly after mid-body is passed, and continued so to the vent. Ventrals 190, slightly angulate laterally, anal entire, subcaudals 47.

Colour (in spirits). Purplish-brown above, with ill-defined and broken-up black cross-bands, every alternate one of which is enlarged across the dorsum into a blotch. About 50 of these blotches upon the body and tail. Below yellowish white, with large black quadrangular spots which are mostly confined to the sides. Head markings similar to *S. cyclurus*, namely, a large dark-brown crescentic band in front, passing across the praefrontals and through the eyes, an oblique temporal streak, and a narrow Λ shaped mark on the nape, its apex on the frontal.

Total length, 760 mm.; tail 105.

Dentition. Maxillary teeth 12, steadily increasing in size from before backwards; palatine, 7; pterygoid, 14.

Type. Adult male, author's number 1.116, collected in the valley of the Maa Yome, Muang Ngow, N. Siam, in June 1917, by Mr. H. W. Joyson, after whom I have named it.

A second specimen was obtained by him a few days later, and although there are differences in colour between the two, on lepidosis it must be referred to the same species.

It is also a male, and differs from the type in the following particulars :—

Frontal shorter than the parietals, a subocular between the 3rd and 4th supralabials, 7 supralabials on the left side due to fusion of the 2nd and 3rd. Ventrals, 187; sub-caudals, 50.

Colour. Light brown above, the dorsal blotches hardly enlarged at all. Below, uniform yellowish-white.

Dentition. Maxillary, 11; palatine, 7; pterygoid, 14.¹

Total length, 670 mm., tail 100. Author's number, 2.119.

The type of *Simotes longicauda* is from the Man-Son mountains, Tonkin. I have not been able to compare my specimens with it, but in lepidosis they agree so closely with the description, that they must be referred to that species. Their colouration, however, is quite distinctive, and entitles them to subspecific rank.

As Mr. Boulenger's description² is probably not available to many members of this Society, I have given a detailed account of my own specimens. They will be presented to the British Museum.

***Rana cubitalis*, sp. nov.**

Diagnosis. Glandular lateral fold narrow and prominent, toes nearly entirely webbed, the tips with small but well developed discs. The tibia-tarsal articulation reaches beyond the tip of the snout.

Nearest perhaps to *Rana guentheri* Boulenger, from which it differs in the position of the vomerine teeth, in the narrower and more prominent glandular lateral fold, in the longer hind limb, and in the larger terminal expansions to the toes.

Description. Vomerine teeth in two oblique groups between the choanae and extending posteriorly slightly beyond them, the interval between the groups equal to their distance from the choanae. Head longer than broad, snout as long as the orbit, obtusely pointed, canthus rostralis distinct, loreal region oblique and concave, nostrils distinctly nearer the tip of the snout than the eye. interorbital space equal to or a little narrower than upper eyelid, tympanum very distinct, nearly as large as the eye. Fingers and toes moderate, first finger considerably longer than second, toes nearly entirely webbed, tips of fingers

¹ Dentition of the left side only, in each case.

² Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) X11, p. 350 (1903).

and toes dilated into small but well developed discs. Subarticular tubercles well marked, a small, oval inner, and a small but quite distinct rounded, outer, metatarsal tubercle. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches beyond the tip of the snout, the heels overlap when the knee is fully flexed. Skin coarsely granular above, very coarsely granular upon the sides. A narrow and very prominent glandular dorso-lateral fold.

Males with external vocal vesicles and a large rounded gland on the inner side of the elbow.

Colour. Light clive (greyish in alcohol) above and on the sides, with an irregular chain of small black spots along each flank. Limbs with dark cross-bars, thighs behind marbled with dark brown. Below whitish. A dark streak along the canthus rostralis, and dark spots upon the lips. Tympanum dark brown.

Type locality. Doi Nga Chang, N. Siam. Type and para-type, adult males. Author's numbers, 1.106 and 2.107 respectively. Collected on the banks of a small stream, February, 1917, at about 500 metres elevation.

Dimensions in millimetres.

	Type	Para-type.
Snout to vent.....	68	66
Length of head (tympanum to end of snout) ...	23	23
Breadth of head	21	19.5
Snout.....	9.5	9.5
Eye.....	7	7
Tympanum	6	6
Elbow to tip of 3rd finger.....	31	25
Tibio-tarsal articulation to tip of 4th toe.....	53	50

The type will be presented to the British Museum.

ON A NEW MURINE GENUS AND SPECIES FROM SIAM.

By C. BODEN KLOSS, F. Z. S.

Tautatus, genus nov.

Skull with superficial resemblance to *Mus* but the rostrum shallower and no masseteric knobs at the anterior bases of the zygomatic plates. No raised supraorbital ridges, the edges even more rounded than in *Mus*. Palatal foramina long, extending posteriorly well between the first molars; palate extending beyond the posterior extremities of the last molars. Mesopterygeid space normal, slightly diverging posteriorly. Bullae of medium size.

Incisors with no trace of a notch in the bevelled edge. Upper molars with proportions as in *Mus*, m^1 being longer than m^2 and m^3 combined. Laminae of m^1 less distorted, the inner tubercles less posteriorly situated. The remaining molars of more angular outline: the anterior edge of m^2 straighter, owing to the more advanced position of the antero-internal tubercle; the internal edge short and followed by an oblique postero-internal edge almost concave: antero-internal point of m^3 forming the apex of a markedly triangular tooth.

External characters apparently not peculiar: fur dense, rather long and stiff, but not mixed with flattened spines. Hindfoot with fifth toe reaching to the middle of the basal phalanx of the fourth. Only the pollex with a flat nail. Ears of medium size. (The number of mammae and plantar pads cannot be ascertained).

The place of this genus in the synopsis for a few of the Indian Muridae given by Thomas (in Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., XXIII, p. 415) would be after *Mus* as follows, presuming 6 plantar pads:—

- b^5 Bevelled edge of incisors not notched.
 No frontal ridges.
- | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|-------------------|
| a^6 | Palatal foramina shorter. | Masseteric | | | |
| | knobs present | ... | ... | ... | <i>Celomys</i> . |
| b^6 | Palatal foramina longer. | Masseteric | | | |
| | knobs absent | ... | ... | ... | <i>Tautatus</i> . |

Genotype : **Tautatus thai**, sp. nov.

Type (and only specimen examined). Female, young adult (skin and skull). Collected at Raheng in February 1917, by Mr. K. G. Gairdner. Author's number 2616/C.B.K.

Diagnosis. Base of upper fur deep neutral grey : pelage of two kinds :—longer hairs (9 mm.) with long dark tips, and shorter hairs (6 mm.) with very short dark tips and broad subterminal annulations of ochraceous-tawny ; the general colour effect being a grizzle of ochraceous-tawny and dark brown, the latter most marked on the back.

Entire underparts of head, body and limbs, together with the region of the vibrissae and sides of throat and neck, clad with hair having grey bases and white tips, producing an effect of silvery white, clearly margined. Forelimbs grey above : hands and feet clear white. Inner sides of ears sparsely clad with greyish hair, backs with proectote ochraceous-tawny. Vibrissae black and white. Tail blackish above and clad with dark hairs, below pale and clad with whitish hairs : at mid-length 22 rings to the centimetre.

Cranium globose ; rostrum only very slightly convex ; nasals rather pointed posteriorly and, viewed in profile, slightly concave ; palatal foramina narrowed posteriorly and reaching a line joining the antero-internal tubercles of m^1 ; bullae not flattened at all.

Measurements. Head and body, 64 ; tail, 72 ; hindfoot, s. u. 17.5 ; ear, 12.5.

Skull :—greatest length, 20.9 ; condylo-basilar length, 18.5 ; basilar length, 16.9 ; palatilar length, 9.5 ; length of palatal foramina, 4.5 ; diastema, 5.2 ; upper molar row (alveoli), 4.0 ; greatest length of nasals, 7.0 ; combined breadth of nasals, 2.1 ; depth of rostrum between extremity of nasals and posterior alveolar edge of incisor, 2.5 ; interorbital constriction, 3.8 ; greatest cranial breadth, 10.0 ; zygomatic breadth (approximate), 10.8.

Remarks. Whether this animal is the same as *Mus nitidulus* Blyth,* it is impossible to say at present as the type has disappeared and no other specimens have been obtained : though the colouring was apparently very similar it was a larger animal with the tail equal in

* Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, XXVIII, p. 294.

length to the head and body (82 mm.).

The present individual has skull measurements which are practically those of the type of *Mus vicolorum* Anderson,* from the Kakhyen Hills near Bhamo, which Thomas in 1881 regarded (together with *Mus kakhyenensis* Anderson, from the same district †) as synonymous with *Mus urbanus* Hodgson, the Indian form of *Mus musculus*: it is rather smaller than the type of *kakhyenensis* but has apparently the same silvery underparts, though otherwise differing in colour from it and also from *vicolorum*.

* Anat and Zool. Researches in Yunnan, p. 308.

† op. cit., p. 307.